



**Frederick County  
Government  
Frederick, Maryland**

## *News Release*

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*Boyer resigns as division director . . .*

### **COMMISSIONERS REORGANIZE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

FREDERICK, MD – The Frederick Board of County Commissioners today announced the reorganization of the Office of Economic Development and the subsequent resignation of the office’s director, Laurie Boyer. Effective immediately, the board renamed the office to the Business Development and Retention Division and transferred it organizationally out of the Community Development Division to be a stand-alone division that will work hand-in-hand with all divisions dealing with the business community at the direction of the county manager and the board.

With the strategic goal of making Frederick County “open for business,” the commissioners decided to reinstate the office’s division status and create a new name that better reflects the county’s priorities.

Promoted to the division director position in 2007 after previously serving as deputy director of the Office of Economic Development for five years, Ms. Boyer previously served as public information officer in the County Manager’s Office and transportation coordinator at TransIT Services.

Board President Blaine Young said, “The board appreciates Laurie’s dedication and her management of county economic development programs, including business retention strategies and the planning, marketing and implementation of business and agriculture development initiatives. During her tenure, she successfully promoted the county to prospective businesses and recruited new employers, coordinated annual Business Appreciation events and monthly business visits with local companies and spearheaded many other initiatives. We thank her for her service to the county and as liaison to the Business Development Advisory Council.

“The reorganization and new name of this division more clearly reflects the board’s pro-business, pro-employment philosophy and our primary focus – helping Frederick County businesses operate more successfully and streamlining the process with less government regulation and burdensome policies. Our focus is on creating a very pro-job creation environment in the county.”

(more)

Senior Business Development Specialist Helen Riddle will serve as acting division director until the position is filled. The county will advertise the position both internally to current county employees and externally to the public.

The Business Development and Retention Division will remain in its offices in Winchester Hall, 12 East Church Street, Frederick, Md.

For information about business development or retention in Frederick County, visit [www.discoverfrederickmd.com](http://www.discoverfrederickmd.com) or call 301-600-1058.

### **ADDITIONAL REORGANIZATION INFORMATION**

The Board of County Commissioners also announced that upon the expiration of the contract for the business development-retention administrator position currently held by Ron Tobin, the position will be eliminated. This decision comes as part of the reorganization related to the new Business Development and Retention Division.

The board also itemized budgetary savings through the elimination of the assistant county manager position, which is currently vacant but budgeted, and the reduction of the board's receptionist position to part-time. The current receptionist applied for and was accepted as an administrative specialist in the Planning & Development Review Department, leaving the board with the option to reduce the hours for the position being vacated.

In addition, the board approved the conversion of the grant-funded business development position currently held by Sherman Coleman in the Business Development and Retention Division to a full-time position with a salary of \$49,182. President Young commented, "Sherman has done an outstanding job and we asked him to continue in that capacity."

Total budgetary savings from not renewing Mr. Tobin's contract and the impact of other positions is estimated at \$200,000.

For additional information on the reorganization, contact County Manager David Dunn at 301-600-3190 or via e-mail at [ddunn@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:ddunn@FrederickCountyMD.gov).

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